THE ADVANCE.

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W. H. THURSTON,
Editor and Proprietor.

Sir John Macdonald's reply to the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, in the House of Commons, on Friday last, proves conclusively that the old man's mental abilities remain unimpaired, and his caustic, withering sarcasm as brilliant and biting as it ever has been during his wonderful career. Referring to Hon. Mr. Laurier's dolorous song of Canadian decay and destruction, he spoke as follows :

"He (Mr. Laurier) said that on this side we labored under an agreeable delusion. We fancy that the country is prosperous, but it is a fatal delusion, and he says that it must be the enchantment of the wizard which induces Mr. Pope and Col. Prior to make these glowing statements which they did. Well, my hon. friend is the leader of a party and also a distinguished member of the legal profession. Mr. Pope, who moved this address, and who did it so ably, and who was so well and so properly congratulated by my hon. friend, is a practical farmer. He should know whether the farmers are prosperous or not in his part of the country rather better than my hon. friend (Mr. Laurier) though he comes from the same province. Mr. Pope tells us, as a practical farmer, and not only a practical but a prosperous and wealthy farmer, that the Province of Quebec never was more prosperous : that the farming interests in that province never were more prosperous than they were in the past year of 1889. Mr. Laurier also supposes that the same fatal hallucination has blinded the eyes of my friend from Victoria (Mr. Prior). He is a shrewd man of business ; he knows what he is talking about, and he says that the province of British Columbia, and especially his own constituency, were never so prosperous before as they were in this year. (Hear, hear.) Yet Mr. Laurier ventures to say that we are mistaken, and that the majority of the people of this country are mistaken, and that we are a miserable, desponding, ruined, depressed and retrograding country. That is the style of the speech of my hon. friend. As long as he has that opinion of Canada, as long as he entertains those opinions, and those whom he leads entertain them, he will, I regret to say, remain at your left, Mr. Speaker, and will not come to the position to which his great abilities entitle him, of leading the majority of the people of Canada and their representatives on the right of your chair. There is a difference of opinion between my hon. friend and the majority of the people of Canada on that account. We know that when in a lunatic asylum somebody asks an inmate how he came to be there, "Oh," says he, "I am here as a consequence of a difference of opinion! All the world think I am mad and I think all the world mad, and the majority carried it." (Loud laughter.) So it is with my hon. friend. (Renewed laughter.) The majority of the people of Canada will declare that the hallucinations, the delusions are on that side of the House and not on this ; but it is a misfortune to my hon. friend's party ; it is a sort of blindness which has come upon them for their sins, by which they have become prophets of evil in their press, on the stump, on the platform, everywhere, and now in Parliament. (Hear, hear.) We find that their raison d'etre, the ba is and foundation for their party, is that Canada is ruined and will remain ruined, and will be more ruined every day until there is a change of parties and my hon. friend comes on this side. I am afraid the people of Canada will prefer to be ruined under us than to be prosperous after the fashion of hon. gentlemen on the other side. (Cheers and laughter.) You know the story of Lord Palmerston, when a wine merchant sent him some special Greek wine, which he said was admirably adapted to cure gout. Lord Palmerston tasted the wine and said. "I would rather have the gout." (Loud laughter.) So the people of Canada would rather have Canada with all its misfortunes, real, or imaginary, governed by the Liberal Conservative party, even when led by your humble servant, than have it directed by all the abilities, all the talents, all the force and all the patriotism of my hon. friends opposite.

We publish this week a final instalment of the San Francisco letters. The Advance believes that its readers join with it in regretting that these entertaining sketches of California life and scenery have come to an end. Miss C. G. Davis, the writer of the letters, wields a clever pen, and though her time has been fully occupied by other matters in the beautiful city set by the western sea, still she has found time to give to the readers of The Advance something out of the ordinary run of written travels. We have experienced the very greatest pleasure ourselves in perusing her letters, and take this opportunity of thanking her publicly for the entertaining tour which she has piloted us through by the magic of her pen, which sentiment we are certain is endorsed by every reader of The Advance.

Letters to the Editor,

For the opinions of which he does not hold himself in any degree responsible.

Dr. Christoe's Reply.

"Consistency is the bugbear of little minds."
"The foolish and the dead alone, never chang their opinions." —LOWELL

I scarcely know whether to be amused or displeased at the effusion of my doughty opponent. That "sop evidently sits very sorely on my friend's stomach, not because he has it, but because he has it not ! Children sometimes whine for want of sops well sugared, but he surpasses all creation. Publicly he said he didn't want it unless the electorate gave it to him. It was refused, and now the wails and lamentations ! Because in my innocense I said it was too good for him under the circumstances. Would that some one found a big cradle to rock him into sleepless forgetfulness of that notorious sop. Then, too, how tickled and delighted he was with the support he got ! It was really overwhelmingly favorable, insomuch that his friends bet and lost on the results—screamed in assurance of success. Many of them were on tiptoe to repeat the history of the broom brigade, to sweep the old doctor off the stage. But my ! what a collapse ! Yes, my friend is satisfied and very thankful ? And again that phantom of a promise to support him. It is said that when a person receives an idea erroneous in character, and having ample time to correct himself or refuse to be corrected, he is a lunatic. Now, of course, if my friend be in such a state, it would be folly to try to convince him. The audience, however, should know that according to all just rules of interpretation, the charge has no foundation, in fact. Whatever was said in this relation was said under contingencies and peradventures, viz., that I would not run again, and that another gentleman opposed to me, would be in the field, neither of which took place ; therefore having never conversed with him or made any pledge to him, pure and simple, no promise was broken, no honor at stake, and added to this my total ignorance of his intentions until his card appeared side by side with my own withdrawal of resignation, should, and does satisfy any person not temporarily blinded with passion. The sidelines and concessions reverberated with what his biassed imagination suggested. It must be gratifying, indeed, that his canvass required so little of time. A farmer couldn't well afford to loose valuable time you see. It not unfrequently happens though, that proxies, if no better than a big *Pickle*, or a cheese man, or a simple kitchen *Cook*, or a beautiful river *Shannon*, or *Danube*, or J-o-h-n-n-y and sundry other agencies do what belongs to the principal. But I am to infer little or none of this was done, save the mark! Upon his own merit alone stood this complacent would-be reeve ! One is lead to exclaim, what merit ? where ? when ? In contrast he says : "two all powerful elements were at my back." This is a little mystified. I did have a few things at my back, viz. Candour, uprightness, ability, merit and a multitude of friends among all classes. I have been weighed and stood proof to the standard. Now, under the circumstances, I was never sustained better in any previous election. Many who supported him have since congratulated me on my success, and explained why they were lead to oppose me, not from want of confidence, but because a promise was extracted, when they were informed I was out of the field.

Not finding anything in my municipal career (the real question at issue) upon which to hang a peg, my friend who claims to be the pink of honor, the ideal farmer representative, and a man of merit, dismantles himself of all, (that is of what he had of them) and drives off at a tangent to attack me on a matter that has no more connection with municipal matters than he has with erudition or an exalted mind. Dr. Dewart I am sure will feel obligated, so will Rev. W. Philip, for such a gratuitous defence. Ministers are not angels, no more than friend Wright, and are liable to errors and mistakes. These are to be spoken against and rebuked, though a layman does it. I may simply mention that bellicose political clergymen, whether Grit or Tory, have no quarters with me. But in this case I apprehend, if the gentleman had been a Tory instead of a Grit, the bile of my friend would have been undisturbed.

One thing is quite clear, that my self-alienated friend knows little about his own church, nor has he love for Dr. Dewart in particular, otherwise he would have hesitated before raising a question of that kind. Lest a wrong impression should be made, it is but just to say that both of the ministers named are very estimable men, talented, useful, pious and are very much esteemed by the church, notwithstanding the one ultra view complained of, a view which very many sincerely regret. I am sure if my friend had profited by the two years' teaching of Mr. Philps, to-day he would be found a christian gentleman with "charity, kindness, thinking no evil, etc.," instead of otherwise, as painfully exhibited in his bitterness to myself.

After my kindly approaches to him. little did I suppose that so soon I would have to defend myself against his aspersions. How soon the "sow has returned to her wallowing in the mire !" I leave for another communication the debauching of some of the electorate with whiskey, and those who did it, which, no doubt, will astonish my temperance friend.

DR. CHRISTOE.

Kimberley.

From our own Correspondent.

The Methodist tea-meeting on Thursday night last was a grand success, considering the very bad roads. Tea was served in the new hall, after which all repaired to the church, where an excellent program was gone through with. Rev. J. H. Watts occupied the chair. Mr. A. Hall reviewed the progress of the church and country for the past thirty years. He dwelt at length on the progress of the young people. He was loudly applauded as he sat down. Next came our genial friend, Wm. Stewart, Esq. He said he felt rather at a loss to know what to do, as he had not been invited to speak until a few minutes before he was called upon, nevertheless he was glad to meet so many of his friends on that occasion and hoped they would long be spared to meet in such friendly gatherings. He sat down amid much applause. Next came M. R. Hammond, who spoke for a short time to the pleasure of the audience, and was also applauded as he took his seat. Next came J. M. Thurston, who gave a few well chosen remarks. Last but not least came our Reeve, T. Gilray, Esq., but as it was getting late he did not speak long. He expressed himself highly pleased to be present at such entertainments as these and hoped they would not soon die out. He thought it gave friends an opportunity of meeting each other and having a friendly chat that they might other wise be deprived of. The choir sang a number of selections in a creditable manner, and in several instances were loudly encored. The good things provided by the ladies were excellent and in abundance. The meetings closed by singing the national anthem. Proceeds $36.

"La Grippe" or Lightning Catarrh.

MR. EDITOR.—"La grippe," or Russian influenza, as it is termed, is in reality an epidemic catarrh, and is called by some physicians "lightning catarrh," from the rapidity with which it sweeps over the country. Allow us to draw the attention of your readers to the fact that Nasal Balm, as well as being a thorough cure for all cases of ordinary cold in head and catarrh, will give prompt relief in even the most severe cases of "la grippe" or Russian influenza," as it will effectually clear the nasal passages, allay irritation and relieve the dull, oppressive headache accompanying the disease. No family should be without a bottle of Nasal Balm in the house, as cold in the head and catarrh are peculiarly liable to attack people at this season of the year, and Nasal Balm is the only prompt and speedy cure for these troubles ever offered the public. Easy to use and agreeable. If you cannot get it at your dealers it will be sent post free on receipt of price (50 cents and $1 per bottle) by addressing Fulford & Co., Brockville, Ont.

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JOHN BEECROFT,
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Eugenia, Dec. 23, 1889.

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